

20-cent production credit on old production. That should not be allowed to remain. I guess I am also a little concerned, Senator Johnson, about the covey you have got gathered around you. It reminds me of when I used to drive the feed wagon in the feedlot. The steers all come running up to get the first mouthful, and that is exactly what's happening here. You have got an \$18 million feed wagon and everyone is trying to get a piece of the action, and you have got to be fair. I have told it from the start, it has got to be fair, it has got to make sense, it has got to make economic sense, and it has got to be consistent, and it has got to be something we can live with year after year, after year. At the present time, this is not the way to draft a bill. You know, I have been invited to join. I'd be embarrassed to get involved in that covin or whatever it is over there, but the facts are that you have got to do this in a systematic basis. I don't think that three people have come to me with proposed amendments on this bill during the 85 days of the session, and, ladies and gentlemen, that is usually the system you follow. If you want to piggyback or if you want to sandbag someone's bill, you go talk to them, and you try to work it out. Instead, you try to weight it down and call it a dog. Ladies and gentlemen, 20 years ago I had to fight the petroleum industry on ethanol development. Today the people who really are loving it to death are my friends, the ones who want to help. I ask you to go back and read the history, ladies and gentlemen, read the history. We have been somewhat successful. We have a third of the ethanol...a third of the unleaded gasoline in Nebraska today is ethanol. Senator Warner mentioned yesterday, when the utilization reached 20 gallons of ethanol annually in Nebraska, we hoped it would stand on its own two feet. Today we are more than ten times that, we made some adjustments, we ought to make some more. The amendment that I am talking about, I think, will do many of those things, but I think you have to remember that if we dissipate the fund to reward individuals who purchased existing production, we are acting contrary to the intent of the 1986 Legislature, which said you reward for new production or you put new steel in the ground. The idea of a production credit is a new one, but...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...we think it will be effective. I do not oppose it, but I do not want to abandon the construction projects idea, and I want the equity investment to be a part of the production credit scheme. And the production credit, ladies